

SYN. NO. \_\_\_\_\_

AGN. NO. \_\_\_\_\_

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR ZEV YAROSLAVSKY

October 9, 2007

On October 2002, in conjunction with the observance of National Disability Awareness Month, the Board proclaimed October 16, 2002 as the first county-wide Disability Mentoring Day. The purpose of this special day was to provide an opportunity to recognize the talents, skills, and dedication of disabled Americans who are a vital part of our workforce and to demonstrate to the general public, and give employers an opportunity to reflect on the incredible potential and talents of people with disabilities.

Disability Mentoring Day is a nationwide effort to help America's more than 50 million people with disabilities to obtain meaningful work and achieve the ADA's guarantee of equality of opportunity, independent living, and economic self-sufficiency.

The goals of Disability Mentoring Day are to:

- Serve as a launching point to promote and foster full participation of people with disabilities in all aspects of the American workforce;
- Promote access to profitable employment opportunities for people with disabilities, thereby endorsing full access to community life;

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- Uphold the disability community as a vital component of diversity recruitment for a wide-ranging workforce, and dismiss employers' fears about hiring people with disabilities; and
- Enhance national effort to foster mentoring and career-exploration opportunities, thereby increasing the confidence among job seekers with disabilities.

**I, THEREFORE, MOVE** that the Board of Supervisors designates the month of October as "Disability Awareness Month" and proclaims October 17, 2007, as "Disability Mentoring Day" throughout Los Angeles County to increase awareness of people with disabilities in today's society and workforce.

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